

# CONSIDER THE LILIES

Matt 6:28-30

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. Jesus the Master Teacher dresses the most profound truths in the simplest of language
- B. Jesus illustrates his lessons with familiar objects: sheep, seed, shepherds, sparrows, fishing nets, feasts, merchants, etc.
- C. **(Title)** In this great lesson Jesus admonishes: "Consider the Lilies" So, let's give some consideration to them in our lesson today

## DISCUSSION:

### I. THE PLANT ITSELF - Grass of the field V.30

- A. The Lilies are a large family including vastly different varieties such as: the desert Joshua tree, asparagus, and onions as well as the familia tulip, Easter and Tiger lilies
- B. Many varieties of lilies grow wild in the valleys and along the sea-side in Palestine
  1. The lily is referred to many times in the Bible: Song of Sol 2:1,2,16; 4:5; 5:13; 6:2,3; Hos 14:5
  2. The flower referred to in the text is thought to be a particular variety of Iris.

### II. HOW THEY GROW

- A. They toil not - the plants grow very actively - there is no evidence of a struggle for survival
- B. Neither do they spin - they are totally unconcerned about appearance
- C. Yet they outdo Solomon in glory

### III. SOME PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS: Lily shows us:

- A. God is: Gen 1:1; Psa 19:1
  1. The very existence of the flower cries aloud that God is "Flower in the crannied wall, I pluck you out of the crannies, I hold you here, root and all, in my hand, Little flower - but if I could understand, what you are, root and all, and all in all, I should know what God and man is." --Tennyson
  2. Men have spent years studying and recording the life cycles of lilies - spent hours and days trying to catch their radiance and color with paint and brush, yet man hasn't been able to give life to a lily (or anything else)
- B. God's power Gen 1:3,6,9,11,14,20,24,26,29,31
  1. God not only gives life - he gives them individuality – He gives them food and water to sustain life
  2. This he does not only in the hot-houses, but in all the vast spaces of earth where plants and flowers grow unseen by man

3. This same power can and will sustain you in all
- C. God's law
  1. These lilies grow in harmony with God's order of nature - they don't try to break this law Gen 1:11,12
  2. God has a law governing men and the forgiveness of their sins Rom 8:2
  3. God's law embraces various requirements such as: Faith, Repentance, Confession, Baptism in order to have salvation and further requirements for continued salvation
  4. We must not seek to change or violate this law if we expect to live (be rewarded)
- D. The folly of worry
  1. The lily is completely oblivious to the stresses of the world - it depends on God to supply its needs and He does
  2. Paul's statement Phil 4:11-13
  3. He is able 2Tim 1:12
  4. In nothing be anxious Phil 4:6,7
  5. We need to give more attention to the inward man 1Sam 16:7 - adorn hidden man of the heart 1Pet 3:3,4
- E. The brevity of life
  1. Compared to a weavers shuttle Job 7:6
  2. A swooping eagle Job 9:25,26
  3. Like a vapor Jas 4:14
  4. Here Jesus uses the lily to show the same idea Matt 6:30; also 1Pet 1:24

## CONCLUSION:

- A. **(TITLE)** Consider the lilies!
- B. They follow God's law - He blesses, cares for and adorns them and he cares more for us than them
- C. Likewise, then if we follow God's law unquestioningly he will care for us
- D. Are we following God's Law? If the lily fails to follow the pattern of nature it will die and so if we fail to follow God's divine law we will die spiritually!